

2006 Local Accomplishments

AID FOR TOWNS IN THE 12TH SENATE DISTRICT

A very important part of my job representing the people of the 12th state Senate District is ensuring Branford, Durham, Guilford, Killingworth, Madison and North Branford receive their fair share of state funding. I am pleased to report the following grants and reimbursements from the state for my district:

Total Education Grants	\$16,732,365
Extra 2006 Property Tax Relief	\$213,242
Town Aid Road Fund (TAR)	\$806,262
Mashantucket Pequot/Mohegan Grants	\$335,311
Local Capital Improvements (LoCIP)	\$569,177
Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	\$820,596
Total Statutory Formula Grants	\$19,476,951



The following are state grants that I have helped to obtain or have requested:

BRANFORD

- \$20,000 for Cenotaph War Memorial
- \$150,000 for Short Beach sidewalks and traffic controls
- \$1.25 million for Hospice
- \$1 million for Blackstone Library improvements (requested)

GUILFORD

- \$10,000 for Shakespeare on the Green
- \$75,000 for Lake Quonnipaug dredging study
- \$3 million for East River Preserve (requested)
- \$3 million for senior and affordable housing

KILLINGWORTH

- \$250,000 for Town Hall
- \$500,000 for development of Wettish property (requested)

MADISON

- \$2,500 for defibrillators for town buildings
- \$500,000 for Scranton Library
- \$500,000 for girls' softball field

DURHAM

- \$500,000 for water quality improvements

NORTH BRANFORD

- \$500,000 of miscellaneous grants for Swajchuk and Hyland Parks

A Message to My Constituents



Dear Neighbors,

On May 3rd, the 2006 legislative session came to a close. Our state Constitution dictates the beginning and closing times for each legislative session. In this short session, the General Assembly passed significant initiatives to make Connecticut a better place to work, live and educate our children. I have included some highlights of the session in this newsletter.

A bipartisan budget was adopted that provides tax relief for real estate and businesses while returning money to cities and towns to help hold down local property taxes. This also includes a significant increase—from \$400 to \$500—in the state property tax credit.

Unfortunately, some important issues were not addressed during our recent session, including reasonable restraints on eminent domain, establishment of an energy policy and a state bonding package. My hope is that the legislature will address these matters in a timely fashion.

Please let me know if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Edward Meyer
Edward Meyer
State Senator, 12th District

Stay Informed...

For the latest information on the issues affecting your district, please visit my Web site:
www.senatedems.ct.gov/Meyer.html



TO RECEIVE MORE INFORMATION on any of the following issues, fill out this form and mail it to me, e-mail or call my office. Make sure to give your name and mailing address and indicate which issues you're interested in. My contact information is listed above to the right.

- ☐ Seniors
- ☐ Business
- ☐ Land Use
- ☐ Environment
- ☐ Crime
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Children
- ☐ Municipalities

Name:

Address:

Town: Zip:

E-mail:

State Senator
Edward Meyer

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I'm proud
to represent the
12th state
Senate District
which includes
the communities
of Branford,
Durham, Guilford,
Killingworth,
Madison and
North Branford

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CONNECTICUT JOBS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

2006 Legislative Initiatives

I was frankly shocked to learn that since 1991, Connecticut has experienced no net job growth. My Senate Democratic colleagues and I initiated a comprehensive plan to address the need for job growth in order to steer our state toward a brighter future. Our legislative package invests in education, jobs, university/business partnerships, transportation improvements, and the promotion of promising fuel cell technologies that have been developed right here in our own backyard.

Highlights of our successful initiatives include:

- **Elimination of the Manufacturing Machinery and Equipment property tax** to attract more manufacturing jobs to Connecticut, especially the cutting-edge, precision manufacturing that is critical to our future economy
- **Elimination of the corporate tax surcharge**
- **Tax incentives to attract movie companies** to film their productions here in Connecticut
- **A Center for Entrepreneurship** that will assist promising technologies—including fuel cells—to develop right here in our state
- **More funding for worker training programs**, to help workers learn new and valuable skills
- **Creation of business incubators** to help grow the small business ideas that will fuel our future economy and improve job creation across the state
- **Development Research and Economic Assistance Matching (DREAM) grants** that supplement and increase small businesses' access to federal research grants
- **A Business Advocate's office** to serve as a one-stop contact point for businesses to access government assistance and cut through red tape
- **Encouraging more engineering and doctoral research graduates to stay and work in Connecticut** through a 'Scholar-to-Work' system which ensures that innovation and creativity will remain a hallmark of Connecticut's future in the growing world marketplace
- **Partnerships between local schools and businesses** to help more students master math and science as building blocks to careers in competitive fields
- **Promoting nanotechnology**—an industry that works at the molecular level—to establish Connecticut as a leader in developing complex materials sold to businesses around the world

STATE SENATOR EDWARD MEYER 12TH DISTRICT

Working for Connecticut's Future

Birth Certificates for Adoptees

During the past year, I founded an Adoption/Foster Care Task Force which held public hearings throughout the state. Adoption can provide children with enormous opportunities because it builds families. But, historically, many adopted children have grown up without knowing who they really are. A bill I introduced was designed to provide a greater sense of identity to adoptees: all children adopted after October 1, 2006 would have had access to their original birth certificates when they turn 21. This measure might have provided them with useful medical information, as well as an enhanced sense of self. This bill, unfortunately, was vetoed by the governor.



Physical Health Needs of Students

Unfortunately, many kids today are not active enough, an issue that has been cited as a factor in the childhood obesity epidemic. A new law I introduced requires the State Department of Education to issue exercise guidelines; school boards can use them to develop local plans regarding opportunities for exercise at schools and in the community.



House parties pose a significant risk to our young people who consume alcohol on private property. The General Assembly passed a new law this session that makes it a crime to knowingly allow underage drinking on your private property or to do nothing to prevent such activity. This legislation also extends the law prohibiting the possession of alcohol by a minor on public property to all private property as well. For my work in this direction, I received an award from the Coalition to Stop Underage Drinking.

Developmental Needs of Kids with Cancer

Radiation and chemotherapy can treat cancer, but some evidence suggests that they may also cause developmental and cognitive impairments, which may be difficult to detect until years later. Testing early on in the treatment can establish a baseline, which can be used for comparisons later on. A new law will ensure that certain insurance companies will pay for this neurological testing on kids who are undergoing treatment for cancer.



State Representative Deborah Heinrich and I held a press conference on the banks of the Hammonasset River in Madison to celebrate the State Bond Commission's approval of \$500,000 to help the Unilever corporation create an on-site wastewater treatment plant. The money will help Unilever redirect wastewater and avoid dumping in the Hammonasset River.

Hospital-Acquired Infections

We have all heard about people who went into hospitals to get better, but unfortunately developed new infections once admitted. A new law I supported will create a reporting system, providing the public with necessary information to compare infection rates at health care facilities in Connecticut. The system may also provide information about processes used to prevent the spread of infection. Beginning October, 2008, this information will be published on a state Web site.



Access to Imaging Services

Imaging services, such as MRIs and PET scans, are crucial in the diagnosis and proper treatment of certain diseases. However, some insurance companies have set copayments for these services so high that they are cost-prohibitive. A new law will set limits on the copayments that certain patients pay for these services, helping to ensure patients do not forgo these tests because of an inability to pay.

Health Insurance Coverage for Breast Cancer Screening

Early and accurate diagnosis is the key to the most effective treatment of breast cancer. Due to new legislation we passed this year, certain

insurance companies will be required to cover comprehensive ultrasound screening for women with increased risk factors for breast cancer, as well as those whose mammograms indicate dense breast tissue. This law will help more women gain access to the best screening tools medical science can offer.

Roadmap to Connecticut's Economic Future

The gridlock that clogs our highways poses a significant threat to Connecticut's economic future. The General Assembly passed groundbreaking legislation that makes major investments in mass transit and plans for our future transportation infrastructure. This new act provides \$1 billion for targeted transportation projects and commits \$1.3 billion for future projects including:

- Creation of the New Haven to Springfield Commuter Rail, significant improvements to bus branch lines, rail stations and parking facilities on the New Haven Line and Shoreline East
- Expansion of Shoreline East service
- A study on widening I-95
- The authorization of the use of state dollars to encourage transit-oriented development and locating businesses near mass transit